

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release Sunday, October 31, 1971

Carroll 343-5634

REFUGE OPEN HOUSES ANNOUNCED BY INTERIOR

Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton today announced that open houses on four eastern national wildlife refuges will be held during "Waterfowl Week" on those areas November 20-28. Refuges hosting these programs are Brigantine in New Jersey, Blackwater and Eastern Neck in Maryland, and Chincoteague in Virginia.

This third annual Fish and Wildlife Service open house is an opportunity for the public to observe the work being done and the facilities available at a few of the 329 national wildlife refuges. They are located in all but three States.

Near Atlantic City, N.J., Brigantine Refuge is a wintering ground for thousands of waterfowl, mostly American brant. Blackwater Refuge supports thousands of Canada geese near Cambridge, Md.

At Rock Hall, Md., several thousand whistling swans inhabit Chesapeake Bay's Eastern Neck Refuge during late November. A fourth bird, the greater snow goose, is the feature of Chincoteague Refuge at Chincoteague, Va., during late fall and early winter.

Each refuge has a wide variety of wildlife in addition to the featured waterfowl. During the open house period, exhibits and demonstrations will be available.

Persons seeking information may write the refuge managers at these addresses: Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge, Great Creek Road, Box 72, Oceanville, New Jersey 08231; Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Route 1, Cambridge, Maryland 21613; Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Route 2, Box 193, Rock Hall, Maryland 21661; Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Box 62, Chincoteague, Virginia 23336.

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